

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Paragraph beginning on page 5, line 21:

a1 The controller 120 manages the operation of the server complex 130. The controller 120 manages the partitions 135 of the server complex 130 as a set of distinct storage spaces which are "leased", sold, licensed or otherwise compensably allocated to the content providers 110, for example, by auctioning partitions to the content suppliers. Other means of transferring management of partitions 135 to the content providers 110 will be readily understood by those skilled in the art. In essence, the actual operation of the server complex 130 is managed by the controller 120, while the content and other parameters associated with the partitions of the various content providers 110 are implemented by the controller 120 on behalf of the content providers 110.

Paragraph beginning on page 5, line 31:

a2 A session manager (not shown) located within the controller 120 or server complex 130 provides all session management functionality between the provider equipment (110-130) and subscriber equipment (150) in the system 100 of FIG. 1. The controller 120 collects usage statistics for each of the titles provided by the content suppliers 110, statistics regarding the use of storage space within the server complex 130 and the individual partitions 135, the use of bandwidth within the interactive information distribution system 100 and other usage parameters known to those skilled in the art. Additionally, in the case of the server complex 130 comprising a plurality of video servers, the controller 120 migrates titles between the video servers to accommodate or "share" the loading placed upon the server complex 130 by the subscriber equipment 150 and within the context of agreements between the content suppliers 110 and the controller 120. Thus, the controller 120 migrates titles between different video servers of a content supplier's partition to enable the subscriber community to access the titles as desired. The controller 120 performs one or both of a ~~course~~ coarse management function (e.g., inter-server title migration) and a fine

aa
concl. management function (intra-server processing such as real time server control, session management functions and the like).

Paragraph beginning on page 9, line 30:

a3
The controller 220 advises the content suppliers 210 as to the appropriate content to be supplied via respective data signals (DS). In this manner, the service provider retains control over the scheduling decisions and, moreover, such scheduling decisions are made with full knowledge of the cost of each scheduling decision. That is, since the service provider (e.g., an MSO) has been ~~appraised~~ apprised of all costs associated with each title via the published list of titles, availability, prices and the like provided by the content suppliers 210, and since the MSO also maintains statistical data regarding content usage by the subscriber community, the MSO may make economically ~~rationale~~ rational decisions with respect to the scheduling of content. Thus, the provisioning model encompassed by the embodiment of FIG. 2 enables an MSO to maximize the return on content investment and reduce the risk of improper scheduling decisions, since scheduling decisions are made rapidly and with current usage and cost information.
